

Family Church

Vision 25

The Lord's favour has come

Isaiah 61

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OPINION

'Our university just experienced a 10-day outpouring of the Holy Spirit'

By



Patrick Fitzgerald | 2 March 2026



At Southeastern University in Florida, we are intentional about creating space for the Holy Spirit to move, but what we experienced recently went beyond any calendar or administrative planning.

It started during the Wednesday morning session of our annual Conference. The 10am service never reached an end, but stretched into the afternoon, the evening, and then continued for several days.



When Hunger Meets Presence

It wasn't marked by loud fanfare, but by a quiet strength - the presence of the Holy Spirit. Students weren't leaving the altar. They weren't checking their phones. In a world defined by digital distractions, their attention was entirely captured by something eternal.

This wasn't a performance; it was an encounter. The joy and praise erupted from all around the room. It was as if the room awoke from a deep slumber as students hungry for God's presence lingered wanting more.

Luke 4 verse 18 (Isaiah 61)

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed
me to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim
freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
19 to proclaim the year
of the Lord's favour."

John 3

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 3

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. 8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. 9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? 10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? 11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. 12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

John 3

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the

Son of man be lifted up: 15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Family Church Vision 25-26

Family
Church

Family Church Vision 25

Isaiah 61 – “The Lord’s favour has come”

Mission

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20

Values- What is important to us

Prayer that is earnest, faith-filled and Kingdom-seeking

Worship that is heartfelt and God-focused

Teaching that is Bible-based and Spirit-led

Discipleship that equips, is faith-filled and where everyone ministers

Small Groups that are Christ-centred and friendship-focused

Community that is loving and active


Evangelism that reaches out and makes God known

Anthropomorphism



Anthropomorphism

The attribution of human characteristics
or behaviour to God

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted upwards from left to right, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

Anthropomorphism

The attribution of human characteristics
or behaviour to God

Anthropomorphism:

Two Greek words, anthropos, meaning "man,"
and morphe, meaning "form."

Sinners Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner,
and I ask for Your forgiveness.

I believe that you died for my sins
and rose from the dead.

I turn from my sins and invite You
to come into my heart and life.

I receive you as my Lord & Saviour.

Guide my life, fill me with Your Holy Spirit
and help me to do your will.

Amen.

To be Continued